

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE

Docket No: 7277-99

13 June 2000



Dear

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 8 June 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. The Board noted that although you suffered from a number of health conditions prior to your release from active duty, you were found physically qualified for release from active duty. In addition, you completed a Standard Form 93, Report of Medical History, on 9 September 1996 in which you stated that you were in "good health and in good shape". Neither the Manual of the Medical Department nor the Military Personnel Manual provisions you cited required that you be retained on active duty for further evaluation and treatment or evaluation by a medical board, because such actions are required only when recommended by competent medical authority, which did not occur in your case. The fact that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded you a combined disability rating of 40% for psoriasis and related conditions, psoriatic arthritis, and an "undiagnosed illness manifested by fatigue and recurrent fevers" was not considered probative of error or injustice in your naval record. In this regard, the Board noted that the VA assigns disability ratings to conditions it classifies as "service connected", i.e., incurred in, aggravated by, or traceable to a period of military service. Unlike the VA, the military departments do not award ratings based on the mere presence of conditions listed in the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities. The military departments may rate only those conditions which render the service member unfit to perform the duties of his office, grade, rank or rating. You were not referred to the